



USAID
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PROGRAM E-SPOTLIGHT

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U K R A I N E

Stop TB!

A “Partnership to Stop TB” roundtable was held on March 23 in observance of World TB Day to mobilize efforts to fight the growing TB epidemic. The roundtable aimed to involve key stakeholders in TB control in Ukraine, including governmental, non-governmental and international resources, in establishing a partnership to consolidate anti-TB efforts.



Alla Khabarova (right), Red Cross Ukraine Executive Director, calls for establishment of a partnership to stop TB in Ukraine as Ambassador Taylor looks on.

Speaking at the roundtable, U.S. Ambassador William Taylor said: “In Ukraine, TB rates continue to rise. We are particularly concerned that the TB situation in Ukraine may be deteriorating further. We are seeing an increase in the number of HIV patients co-infected with TB growing and multi-drug resistance that may develop into incurable super-resistant TB.”

The Ambassador also stressed that pilot TB control efforts in Donetsk have demonstrated that the Directly Observed Treatment Short Course strategy (DOTS) is a cost-effective approach to TB diagnosis and treatment. The Donetsk region has maintained

TB cure rates of 68 percent and has improved case detection rates. This program has now been rolled out to five additional regions with high TB incidences.

USAID is continuing to assist the Government of Ukraine in combating TB through its three projects: TB Country Support, Tuberculosis DOTS Roll-Out, and the Health Policy Initiative.

MCC Vice President John Hewko Visits Four Ukrainian Cities

Millennium Challenge Corporation Vice President for Operations John Hewko met with high-level regional and local government officials, businessmen and community leaders during a tour of four Ukrainian cities – Lviv, Odesa, Simferopol and Dnipropetrovsk - on March 12-15.



John Hewko answers questions at a press conference in Odesa.

“During our meetings with various segments of the Ukrainian community and leadership, we are providing guidance on the important consultative process necessary to develop a Millennium Challenge Account Compact Proposal, as well as an overview of the MCC process,” Hewko said.

Ukraine already receives funds from MCC's Threshold Assistance Program. Ukraine's two-year, \$45 million Threshold agreement was signed in December 4, 2006, and is designed to reduce corruption in the public sector. Ukraine is now also eligible for the considerably larger Millennium Challenge Account (MCA) Compact assistance program, which is designed to alleviate poverty and stimulate sustainable economic growth.

International ESCO Trade Mission to Ukraine

International energy service companies (ESCOs) and other energy efficiency service providers interested in doing business in Ukraine took part in a trade mission to Ukraine on March 19-23. The goal of the trade mission was to introduce the Western-based companies to prospective Ukrainian counterparts (ESCOs, energy engineering consulting firms, etc.).

The trade mission was organized by USAID's Ukraine Industrial Energy Efficiency Initiative (U-IEEI). More than 50 participants took part in a series of presentations, which included roundtables on Ukrainian industrial energy efficiency opportunities, and meetings with potential counterparts.



Peter Argo (right) speaks with Larry Good (left), Regional Vice-President, Southeastern Europe, GlobalNet Energy Services International, during a coffee break.

The U-IEEI project presented potential industrial energy efficiency projects, which have been identified in conjunction with energy audits that are currently underway in Ukraine.

"We expect two major outcomes to this program: first, we hope to help participating companies to significantly reduce the amount of natural gas they consume and, second, we

hope to establish a model process for other Ukrainian companies - both service and operating companies - to quickly emulate," said Deputy Mission Director Peter Argo in opening remarks at a trade mission workshop.

U-IEEI is implemented by the International Resource Group (IRG) and its subcontractor - the Alliance to Save Energy (ASE).

Senior Government Officials Gather at Debt Management Forum

USAID's Access to Credit Initiative (ACTI) organized the "Building a Domestic Government Securities Market in Ukraine: Essential Steps for Development" Forum on March 22.

The Forum was meant to spur a dialogue and a process for deliberation of policy decisions by the Government of Ukraine that would lead to the development of a domestic treasury market. Forum participants discussed ways of formulating debt management strategies and managing the associated risks, and summarized key challenges that frame the policy choices necessary to develop a government securities market.

Upcoming Events

April 11, The Countering Trafficking in Persons Project, Roundtable on "Migration Problems in the Context of Gender Issues," Zaporizhzhya.

April 12, Ukraine Rule of Law Project, Press Conference on the Results of the Sociological Survey of Judges, Kyiv.

April 12, Expanding Training & Advocacy Services of Association of Ukrainian Cities Project, Ambassador to participate in the mayors' roundtable, Zhytomyr.

April 12, Mission Director to meet with local government officials, Sumy.

USAID Regional Mission for Ukraine, Moldova and Belarus

19 Nizhniy Val Street, 04071 Kyiv, Ukraine
Tel: (380 44) 537-4600;
Fax: (380 44) 537-4684
<http://ukraine.usaid.gov>